

## Emoticon Input Method and Apparatus

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 An apparatus, such as a communication device, is provided with emoticon  
input logic associated with an input key to improve the ease-of-use of the apparatus  
for entering emoticons, e.g. into a text message, while the apparatus is operating  
e.g. in a text mode. Responsive to a selection of the associated input key, one or  
more emoticons are displayed for selection. A user may "scroll" through the one or  
10 more displayed emoticons to "select" an emoticon. In one embodiment, current  
focus is placed on one of the displayed emoticons, and the emoticon with the current  
focus is automatically selected upon elapse of a predetermined amount of time after  
the current focus was placed.

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